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DEPARTMENT OF HEALTH AND SOCIAL SECURITY
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Urban District Council of Newbiggin by the Sea

ANNUAL REPORT

of the

Medical Officer of Health

and the

Public Health Inspector

for the Year

1972

ANNUAL REPORT

of the

MEDICAL OFFICER OF HEALTH FOR 1972

To the Chairman and Members of Newbiggin-by-Sea Urban District Council.

Mr. Chairman and Councillors,

I have the honour to present to you the report of the Medical Officer of Health and the Public Health Inspector for the year 1972.

The Registrar General's estimated population for 1972 was 10,860, an increase of 290 over 1971.

Births There were 138 registered live births in 1972 - a fall of 18 from 1971. This gives a crude birth rate of 12.7 per 1,000 population, compared with 14.7 in 1971. The adjusted rate is 11.9 per 1,000 estimated population. (E. & W. crude birth rate 14.8 per 1,000 home population).

Deaths There were 141 deaths during the year compared with 132 in 1971 - an increase of 9. The crude death rate is 12.9 per 1,000 population, the adjusted death rate is 14.4 per 1,000 population (E. & W. crude death rate 12.1 per 1,000).

There were two infant deaths both in the first week of life. The infant mortality and neonatal mortality rates were 14.4 per 1,000 live births.

The main cause of death is still from the heart and circulatory system but the gap between this cause and cancer seems to be narrowing.

Infectious Diseases

Only two diseases were notified during the year - measles (8) and Meningococcal infection (1). This is a very low figure indeed.

Newbiggin has a problem common to most communities - lack of ground floor accommodation - both of one and two bedrooms. This need is going to increase and I would have thought that this type of accommodation ranked high on the priority list.

I would like to thank the Chairman and Members of the Health Committee for their interest during the year.

I would also like to thank the Public Health Inspector for the considerable amount of work he achieves and the cheerful manner in which he carries it out.

Thanks are due to Mrs. Hay for compiling this report and to the Officers in the other Council Departments for their co-operation.

I am,
Your obedient Servant,
Alexander Donaldson,
Medical Officer of Health.

Chairman of the Public Health Committee - Councillor Mrs. E. Eastlake

OFFICERS OF THE PUBLIC HEALTH DEPARTMENT

Medical Officer of Health	ALEXANDER DONALDSON M.B., Ch.B., M.F.C.M., D.P.H.
Public Health Inspector	E. BIRKETT M.A.P.H.I.
Offices of the Medical Officer	Station Villa, Ashington.
Clerk to the Medical Officer	Mrs. M. Hay
Telephone	Ashington 814444
Offices of the P.H. Inspector	Front Street, Newbiggin-by-Sea.
Clerk to the P.H. Inspector	Mrs. P. Wilkinson
Telephone	Newbiggin 350

Area in Acres	1,840
Registrar-General's Estimate of resident population Mid-1972	10,860
Rateable Value	£293,704
One Penny Rate Produces	£2,550
Number of inhabited houses (end of 1972)	4,090
Total number of houses owned by Local Authority	1,793

VITAL STATISTICS

(figures for England and Wales are in brackets)

BIRTHS

Comparability Factor 1.01

Live Births	Total	Male	Female
Legitimate	131	68	63
Illegitimate	11	7	4
	142	75	67

Crude Birth Rate per 1,000 estimated population 12.7 (16)
Standardised birth rate 12.7 x 0.94 .....11.9 (16)
Illegitimate live births as a percentage of all live births 7.7 (8)

Still Births	Total	Male	Female
Legitimate	1	-	1

Still births rate per 1,000 live and still births 13.9 (12)

DEATHS

Comparability Factor 1.25

Total	Male	Female
141	78	63

Crude Death Rate per 1,000 estimated population.....12.9 (11.6)
Standardised Death Rate 12.9 x 1.12 .....14.4 (11.6)
Deaths from Puerperal Causes, Pregnancy, Childbirth, Abortion .....NIL
Maternal Mortality rate per 1,000 total (live and still births).....NIL

Deaths of Infants under 1 year	2
All infants per 1,000 live births	2
Infant Mortality Rate	14.4 (17)
Deaths of Infants under 4 weeks	2
Neonatal Death Rate	14.4 (12)
Deaths of Infants under 1 week	2
Early neonatal death rate (under 1 week per 1,000 live births)	14.4 (10)
Perinatal Death Rate (still births & deaths under 1 week per 1,000 live and still births)	27.9 (22)

CAUSES OF DEATH 1972

INTERNATIONAL CLASSIFICATION	M.	F.	Total
Acute Gastro-Enteritis	1	-	1
Staphylococcal Septicaemia	1	-	1
Malignant Neoplams of Oesophagus	-	2	2
" " " Stomach	2	4	6
" " " Large Bowel	1	1	2
" " " Rectum	-	3	3
" " " Gall bladder	-	2	2
" " " Pancreas	1	2	3
" " " Larynx	1	-	1
" " " Bronchus & Lung	10	1	11
" " " Femur	-	1	1
" " " Breast	-	4	4
" " " Cervix Uteri	-	1	1
" " " Ovary	-	4	4
" " " Prostate	1	-	1
" " " Kidney	1	-	1
" " " Thyroid	-	1	1
Myeloid Leukaemia	-	1	1
Benign Neoplasm of Eye	-	1	1
Diabetes Mellitus	-	2	2
Hypopituitism	-	1	1
Epilepsy	1	-	1
Benign Hypertension	1	-	1
Coronary Disease	27	9	36
Chronic Pericarditis	1	-	1
Congestive Heart Failure	4	-	4
Myocardial Degeneration	5	5	10
Subarachnoid Haemorrhage	-	1	1
Cerebral Haemorrhage	3	4	7
Cerebral Thrombosis	-	1	1
Aortic Embolism (Abdominal)	-	1	1
Arteriosclerotic Gangrene	-	1	1
Pulmonary Emolism	1	-	1
Broncho Pneumonia	4	4	8
Pneumonia	-	1	1
Chronic Bronchitis	8	3	11
Duodenal Ulcer	1	1	2
Congenital Heart Disease	1	-	1
Intracranial Birth Injury	1	-	1
Senility	1	-	1
Accidental Carbon Monoxide Poisoning	-	1	1
Totals	78	63	141
Deaths over 65 years	37	48	85

VITAL STATISTICS

AR	POPULATION	CRUDE BIRTH RATE	CRUDE DEATH RATE	INFANTILE MORTALITY RATE
21	6,800	31.07	10.98	29
31	6,904	16.12	13.61	98.2
40	9,162	17.68	10.57	50.96
50	9,508	16.82	13.10	43.75
60	10,150	17.93	11.43	27.47
70	10,460	14.6	11.3	NIL
71	10,570	14.7	12.4	NIL
72	10,860	12.7	12.9	14.4

PRINCIPAL CAUSES OF DEATH IN NEWBIGGIN-BY-SEA.

DISEASE	Total No. 1971	Total No. 1972	% of Total Deaths 1971	% of Total Deaths 1972
seases of Heart and rculatory System	69	55	52.2	39
lignant Neoplasms	26	45	19.6	32
rebrovascular Disease	10	9	7.5	6.3
eumonia, Bronchitis & Emphysema	12	20	9.0	14.1
OTAL	117	129	88.3	91.4

PREVALENCE OF, AND CONTROL OVER, INFECTIOUS AND OTHER DISEASES

CASES NOTIFIED DURING THE YEAR

	Under 1 year	1 - 2 years	3 - 4 years	5 - 9 years	10-14 years	15-24 years	25-34 years	35-44 years	45-54 years	55-64 years	75 years & over	TOTAL
Measles	1	2	-	5	-	-	-	-	-	-	-	8
Meningococcal Infection	-	-	-	1	-	-	-	-	-	-	-	1
TOTALS	1	2	-	6	-	-	-	-	-	-	-	9

Site of Disease	MALES							FEMALES						
	0-25	26-35	36-45	46-55	56-65	Over 65	Total	0-25	26-35	36-45	46-55	56-65	Over 65	Total
Malignant Neolplasm of:														
Oesophagus	-	-	-	-	-	-	-	-	-	-	-	1	1	2
Stomach	-	-	-	-	-	2	2	-	-	-	-	1	3	4
Large Bowel	-	-	-	1	-	-	1	-	-	-	-	-	1	1
Rectum	-	-	-	-	-	-	-	-	-	-	-	1	2	3
Gallbladder	-	-	-	-	-	-	-	-	-	-	-	-	2	2
Pancreas	-	-	-	-	1	-	1	-	-	-	-	-	2	2
Larynx	-	-	-	-	-	1	1	-	-	-	-	-	-	-
Bronchus and Lung	-	-	-	1	5	3	9	-	-	1	-	-	-	1
Femur	-	-	-	-	-	-	-	-	-	-	-	-	1	1
Breast	-	-	-	-	-	-	-	-	-	1	-	2	1	4
Cervix Uteri	-	-	-	-	-	-	-	-	-	-	1	-	-	1
Ovary	-	-	-	-	-	-	-	-	-	-	-	-	4	4
Prostate	-	-	-	-	1	-	1	-	-	-	-	-	-	-
Kidney	-	-	-	-	-	1	1	-	-	-	-	-	-	-
Thyroid	-	-	-	-	-	-	-	-	-	-	-	-	1	1
Myeloid Leukaemia	-	-	-	-	-	-	-	-	-	-	-	-	1	1
Eye	-	-	-	-	-	-	-	-	-	-	-	-	1	1
TOTALS	-	-	-	2	7	7	16	-	-	2	1	5	20	28

INFANT DEATHS

Cause	Sex	Age	Place of Death
Intra Cranial Haemorrhage	Male	20 min.	Hospital
Aspiratum Pneumonia (Premature)	Female	6 days	Hospital

TUBERCULOSIS

NEW CASES AND MORTALITY DURING 1972.

There were no new cases of pulmonary tuberculosis notified during 1972.

There were no deaths from pulmonary tuberculosis during 1972.

Death rate from respiratory tuberculosis in Newbiggin-by-Sea NIL

Death rate from other forms of tuberculosis in Newbiggin-by-Sea NIL

PUBLIC HEALTH INSPECTOR'S ANNUAL REPORT

Year Ended 31st December 1972

PUBLIC HEALTH AND HOUSING ACTS

Statement of Housing for the Year 1972

NEW HOUSES COMPLETED DURING THE YEAR

a)	By Local Authority	Nil
b)	By any other Housing Authority	152
c)	By private persons	

CLOSING AND DEMOLITION

1.	Houses demolished in Clearance Areas	10
2.	Houses demolished not in Clearance Areas	-
3.	Houses closed, not demolished	-
4.	Any other houses permanently discontinued as dwellings and not included above	-

REPAIRS

Houses made fit by procedure under either Housing or Public Health Acts

5.	By informal action	5
6.	By owners, following statutory notice	2
7.	By Local Authority in default of owners	-
8.	Demolition Orders revoked after reconstruction	-

HOUSES PATCHED

9.	Houses in Clearance Areas still in use at end of the year for temporary accommodation	-

CLEARANCE PROGRAMME

10.	Number of unfit houses in Clearance Programme remaining to be dealt with at end of year	-

IMPROVEMENT GRANTS

		No. of separate houses
1.	Applications submitted to Local Authority	145
2.	Applications rejected	-
3.	Applications approved	145
4.	Approximate average grant per house	£461
5.	Total number of houses approved for grant in the area since the inception of scheme	487

STANDARD GRANTS

		During the year	Total to Date
1.	No. of separate houses for which grants have been made	7	197
2.	No. of houses so provided with:-		
	a) Bath or shower	-	99
	b) Wash hand basin	-	96
	c) Hot water supply	-	88
	d) Water closet	7	176
	e) Food Store	-	52

LOCAL AUTHORITY HOUSES

1.	Total No. of houses owned by local authority	1,793
2.	Total No. of inhabited houses in district	

HOUSING ACT 1957

North Seaton Colliery Compulsory Purchase Order 1968

Since demolition was completed and the site cleared, a nuisance has arisen through the actions of certain persons in dumping of unwanted materials on the cleared area. An attempt is being made to infill the quarry at North Seaton with dry material, but many persons are dumping, particularly building materials, during the late and early hours of the day. Attempts to control this have been made, but it would seem the only complete answer is to station a man there permanently.

Wilkie Terrace Compulsory Purchase Order 1971

This scheme was completed during the year, and the cleared site turned into a temporary car park. Negotiations are going on with the owners of some of the excluded land in an attempt to purchase voluntarily, but are unsuccessful to date. This does, however, complete the slum clearance in Newbiggin.

IMPROVEMENT AREAS

The improvement schemes, which were initiated last year, are now in the process of gearing up after certain initial frustrations. In addition to General Improvement Area 1, a second General Improvement Area has now been declared, covering most of the rest of the town, for environmental improvements. As the Government has extended the deadline to June 1974, this became a feasible proposition. It would appear also that the National Coal Board housing may receive some improvement if recent negotiations are successful.

Grant work to private houses continues to run at a high level and inevitably builders and materials are now in very short supply and costs are rising.

WATER SUPPLY

The water supply in the district supplied by the Tynemouth Water Corporation undertaking was, as ever, plentiful and bacteriologically pure on samples taken. Some complaints were received on colour in the water after pipe cleaning work, but these normally disappear after one or two days and samples of this discoloured water proved pure on testing.

PUBLIC CLEANSING

The Public Cleansing service has worked well during the year and the Saturday morning collection service has reduced the incidence of dumping to virtually nil. The service provided by Ashington Council has reduced nuisance from the tip at North Seaton, and a programme of infilling the original tip with builder's rubble has been instituted and is progressing well.

The street sweeping has been work studied, and delivery taken of a Melford sweeper, this being a precinct sweeper which does footpaths as well as gutters. The hand sweeper routes have been completely reorganised and it is hoped to sweep each part of the district on a 7½ day cycle.

CARAVAN (CONTROL OF SITES AND DEVELOPMENT) ACT 1960

The sites have run well during the year and no particular problems have arisen. With the new refuse collection vehicle which was purchased, it has been possible to collect the caravan refuse on a regular basis.

CLEAN AIR ACTS 1958 AND 1968

Although still not up to full production, the Alcan Smelter Project is now producing at a good capacity. The readings taken have shown virtually no change from the norm established, and it would appear that contrary to some expectations, the anti pollution apparatus in the plant is working very well. Regular meetings continue to be held when readings are discussed with representatives of the Company.

FOOD AND DRUGS ACTS 1955

Fried Fish Shops	3
Wet Fish Shop	1
Cafe's	5
Licensed Premises	2
Garage	1
General Dealers	12
Grocers	8
Butchers	4

OTHER FOODS

The following articles of food were found to be unfit for human consumption and were condemned.

588 tins consisting of vegetables, fruit, meat and fish
303 packs of frozen food, consisting of vegetables, meat, pastries, fish and fruit
43 lb of Irish Bacon
10¼ lb of Danish No. 1 Ham

FACTORIES ACT 1961

Premises	No. on Register	Number of		
		Inspections	Written Notices	Occupiers Prosecut
1. Factories in which Sections 1, 2, 3, 4 and 6 are to be enforced by Local Authority	12	4	-	-
2. Factories not included in 1 in which Section 7 is enforced by Local Authority	11	1	1	-
3. Other premises in which Section 7 is enforced by Local Authority (excluding outworkers premises)	4	-	-	-
TOTAL	27	5	1	-

PREVENTION OF DAMAGE BY PESTS ACT

Rodent Control

Rats	52
Mice	16

Insect Control

Ants	1
Spider Beetles	4
Cockroaches	67
Fleas	4
Wood Lice	3
Spiders	1
Earwigs	2

Rentokil continue to provide a satisfactory service, the charges remaining the same for the third year in succession.